I actually want to fall in love, but it's so hard.
BYEBYE LIBERTY
Chapter 2

CHARACTER & STORY

匡
職業：テリカシーの無い男。でもイケメンで学歴では注目の存在の男子。

鈴村 桂子
自分には恋愛は必要ないと思っている高1女子。でも本当はしてみたい。

★自分には恋は必要ないと思っている鈴木桂。桂は友達の久美、りんごがイケメングループの千堂匡、成沢剛、そして匡に熱狂していても特に興味は無いようでした。そんな桂の家の前りに匡が引っ越してきました。★ある日、妻夫が外へ出ると助けてほしいと声をかけてきた匡。前からとある女性につきまとわれている、ということで彼のフリをしてほしいというお願いでした。それならば、と引き受けた桂ですが、からいきなりキスをされます。デリカシーの無い行為にビンタをした桂。ふたりは犬猿の仲になります。★次の日そんな桂に興味を持った成沢剛と叶達は匡を引き連れ理奈のところに。そこで匡から桂に突然プロポーズが。ムキになる理奈ですが、本当は恋をしてみたいと思っています。匡は桂を本当に好きになれるのか!?

千和 理奈
ミステリアス美人系の姫の男友達。

成沢 剛久郎
気さくなノリの姫の男友達。

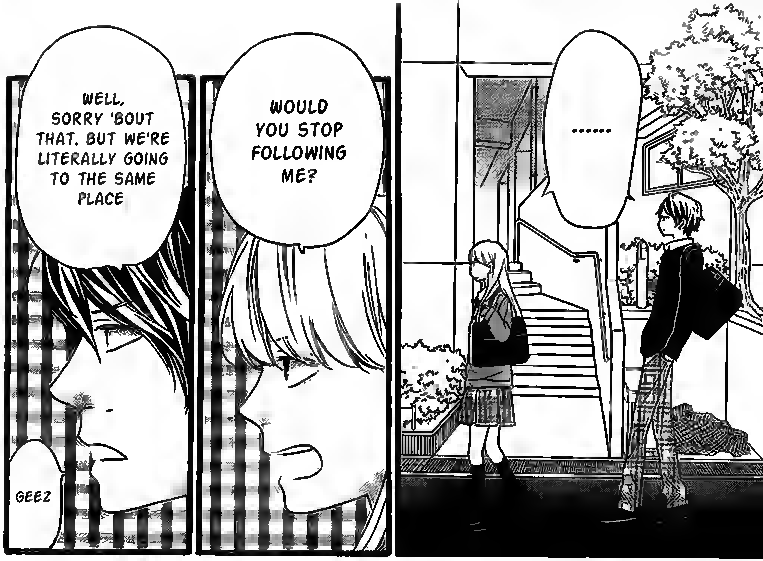
りんご
匡のイケメン好き理奈の友達。

久美
理奈の友達。眼鏡を外すと美人

I'VE ALWAYS THOUGHT THAT I COULD CARE LESS ABOUT LOVE,
THAT I JUST DON'T NEED SOMETHING LIKE THAT IN MY LIFE
ALL RIGHT, DONE.
BUT WHAT HE SAID
You look down on people who are in love as a defense mechanism, right?
If you're envious, just be honest and admit it.
REALLY HIT HOME.

DAMN IT!
HE'S RIGHT.
I ADMIT IT. I'LL REALLY OWN UP TO IT.
THE TRUTH IS
THAT I LONG TO BE IN LOVE.
BUT NOT WITH HIM...
MORNING, RINA-CHAN
I SMELL SOMETHING NICE
Oh! You prepared a Lunchbox for me?
YEAH.
I ALSO MADE ONE FOR YOUR ASSISTANT. MAKE SURE TO EAT THEM.
Oh my gosh thank you! ♡

I'M OFF TO SCHOOL NOW OKAY?
IF YOU DON'T GET AROUND TO DOING THE DISHES, JUST LEAVE THEM AND SOAK THEM
ROGER
ALL RIGHT, THEN GOOD LUCK WITH YOUR MANU-SCRIPT!
Take care!
CLICK


WELL, SORRY 'BOUT THAT. BUT WE'RE LITERALLY GOING TO THE SAME PLACE
WOULD YOU STOP FOLLOWING ME?
GEEZ
.....

IF I HAD THE CHOICE, I'D RATHER HAVE A GIRL WITH A MORE CHARMING PERSONALITY AS MY NEIGHBOR.
You moved here way after I did though.
THAT CONVER-SATION WE HAD YESTER-DAY
IT NEVER HAPPENED
HUH?

I'M TALKING ABOUT WHAT YOU SAID TO ME.
WHAT DO YOU MEAN? WHAT CONVER-SATION?
oh, yeah.
I SAID THAT, DIDN'T I?
"JUST FALL IN LOVE WITH ME." THAT.
I DON'T KNOW IF YOU WERE BEING SERIOUS OR IF YOU WERE JUST MESSING WITH ME,

BUT THE DAY I FALL FOR YOU WILL BE THE DAY HELL FREEZES OVER
SORRY.
SAY WHAT?!
WHAT THE HECK, YOU'RE "SORRY"?
WHY DOES THIS FEEL LIKE I'M BEING REJECTED BY YOU?
BECAUSE THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT'S HAPPENING, RIGHT?
WHAT? HELL NO, IT'S NOT!
LISTEN!
I SAID THAT FOR YOUR SAKE OUT OF KIND NESS, YOU KNOW?
WHAT?
Care to explain?
JUST TRY AND USE YOUR BRAIN
DON'T YOU WANT TO FALL IN LOVE WITH SOMEONE?
THEN YOUR FIRST AIM SHOULD BE TO MAKE THAT WISH COME TRUE, RIGHT?

AND WE ALSO KISSED, REMEMBER...
!!
HOLD ON! DON'T BRING THAT UP! I WAS TRYING TO GET IT OFF MY MIND!
GIRL, THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE WE'RE TALKING ABOUT YOUR FIRST KISS HERE
UGH!! THAT ONE DIDN'T COUNT! I JUST WANT TO FORGET IT EVER HAPPENED!
STILL, THERE'S NO WAY YOU CAN.
WELL, ANY-WAY, IF YOU FALL FOR ME, IT'LL TURN INTO A NICE MEMORY, WON'T IT?
I ONLY SEE BENEFITS IN THAT.
ARE YOU BEING SERIOUS RIGHT NOW?
OF COURSE I AM.
...

NOT THAT THIS IS EVER GOING TO HAPPEN, BUT
IF, FOR ARGUMENT'S SAKE, I ACTUALLY FALL IN LOVE WITH YOU, HOW WOULD YOU TAKE RESPONSIBILITY?
I DON'T GIVE A DAMN ABOUT THAT
YOU'RE WELCOME TO FALL IN LOVE WITH ME AS YOU PLEASE.
BUT THAT DOESN'T MEAN I'LL FALL FOR YOU, YOU KNOW?
IF YOU WERE A LITTLE MORE CHARMING, I MIGHT HAVE GIVEN IT SOME THOUGHT THOUGH.
HA HA HA HA HA

TRASH LIKE YOU CAN GO DIE FOR ALL I CARE.
.....
Haa...
HERE WE GO!

HEHE
MORNING
G... GOOD MORNING
KUMI!
RINGO!
QUICKLY
I'M SORRY!
YESTER-DAY... I DIDN'T MEAN TO GET SO WORKED UP NOT TO MENTION TO SAY THOSE KIND OF THINGS...
IF YOU ASK ME PEOPLE WHO NEVER SHUT UP ABOUT LOVE AND ARE ALL ABOUT IT,
THOSE ARE THE ONES WHO ARE WAY MORE PATHETIC!

OH.
I COMPLETELY RUINED THE MOOD
HONESTLY, I'M SO SORRY...
Nah we're not offended at all really-!
AND IT'S OUR FAULT, TOO.
WE CAN BE PRETTY ANNOYING...
NO!
NO.
I WASN'T PUSHING YOU AWAY...
UM...
Y... YOU TWO ALWAYS LOOK LIKE YOU'RE ENJOYING YOURSELVES SO MUCH...
..UH.. I WAS ENVIOUS OF YOU...

ba-thump
Despite myself, I was on the verge of tapping into the realm of yuri just now.
whoa~
HUH?
Oh my gosh you're so cute it hurts, Rina-chan~!
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
THE REALM OF YURI?
SO...
So cute
HUH?
Looks like Rina-chan's also just a normal girl! ♡
YOU'VE ACTUALLY BEEN YEARNING FOR LOVE ALL THIS TIME.
Although you kept saying you weren't interested
SO THAT'S NOW IT IS...

...Bessatsu Margaret Extra...
Next issue's topic will be...
"Transformed boys"!!
"Salty Honey"
Ishida Azu
"Amakara na Futari"
Kitou Shushu
"Playboy na Kimi ni"
Sakai Kaori
"Awanai Kimi to no Kyoutsuuten"
Kotobuki Jun
"Nikaku Kankei"
Komezawa Megumi
SPARE ME YOUR COMMENTS.
THIS IS SO EMBARRASSING...
I'm so happy we can finally have this kind of conversation with you Rina-chan~♥
Aw, come on! Let's discuss it some more~
I ADMIT I WAS A LITTLE SURPRISED.
BUT WHEN YOU TOLD US THAT YOU'VE NEVER HAD A CRUSH ON ANYONE SO FAR,
...
YEAH, THAT'S PRETTY UNUSUAL.
I'm a weirdo...
I... I knew it, it's strange, right...?

RINA-CHAN, CALM DOWN!
GET YOURSELF TOGETHER! LET'S THINK THIS OVER AGAIN
WHAT IF I'M THE KIND OF COLD-HEARTED PERSON WHO'S UNABLE TO LOVE OTHERS...?
OR MY HEART HAS SOME SORT OF DEFECT...?
MAYBE I ACTUALLY PREFER GIRLS...?
...
NO IDEA...
MY TYPE...? UHHH...?
excited
FIRST OFF, WHAT KIND OF BOYS ARE YOUR TYPE?
HUH...?
I'M NOT...
YEAH, SEEMS LIKE RINA-CHAN LOOKS AT BOYS WITH VERY CRITICAL EYES.
EHHH... MAYBE YOUR IDEALS ARE SET TOO HIGH...?
I AM, GEEZ!
I REALLY HAVE ABSOLUTELY NO IDEA.
ARE YOU EVEN TAKING THIS SERIOUSLY?!
RINAAA!

.....
OKAY, THAT'S PROBABLY WHERE YOU SHOULD START.
TYPES... AND IDEALS, HUH...
SOMETHING TELLS ME THAT THESE THINGS AREN'T VERY RELIABLE TO BEGIN WITH..
IDEALS ARE NOTHING BUT CONVENIENT ILLUSIONS ANYWAY.
I DON'T THINK THERE'S A POINT IN CHASING AFTER SOMETHING THAT VAGUE.

I KNOW EXACTLY WHICH TYPE OF BOY I'D NEVER GO FOR,
...BUT ON THE OTHER HAND,
ALTHOUGH HE MIGHT STAND OUT QUITE A BIT.
AH, TAKUMI.
HE'S GETTING A LUNCHBOX.
I WONDER IF THAT'S HIS GIRLFRIEND.
I DON'T THINK SO.
Did you know? There's an urban legend about Takumi.
It says that he's never had to prepare his lunch himself before.
REAL-LY?

JUST WHAT EXACTLY IS IT THAT YOU SEE IN A GUY LIKE HIM?
ALL BECAUSE HE'S HIGH UP ON THE SOCIAL LADDER.
EVERY DAY, A DIFFERENT GIRL PROVIDES CATERING FOR HIM.
HUH? HE'S GOOD-LOOKING
HMPH
NO WAY. THAT MUST SAVE HIM LOTS OF MONEY
BUT IN THE END, YOU'RE JUST SEEING HIS FACE
AS A HUMAN BEING, HE'S AS HOLLOW AS ONE CAN BE.
RINA, DO YOU KNOW SOMETHING ABOUT TAKUMI WE DON'T?
AS A HUMAN BEING, YOU SAY...
I HAVE A GENERAL IDEA ABOUT HIM.
By observing him.
IN A NUTSHELL,
HE'S JUST A WANNABE WHO'S PUTTING ON AIRS.

I BET JUST BECAUSE HE HAS A DECENT FACE.
HE'S BEEN SPOILED ALL HIS LIFE WITHOUT EVER HAVING TO LIVE THROUGH ANY SORT OF HARDSHIP.
MAYBE HE'S THE KIND OF GUY WHO THINKS HE'S SOMEONE SPECIAL?
BUT THE BOTTOM LINE IS THAT HE DOESN'T THINK TWICE ABOUT ANYTHING.
I WONDER IF THAT'S WHY HE'S SO INSENSITIVE TO OTHER PEOPLE'S FEELINGS.
IS IT JUST ME,
OR DO YOU SENSE ALL THIS HOSTILITY, TOO...?
I'M SCARED.
THE WAY HE LIVES HIS LIFE SO CARELESSLY
MAKES ME WANT TO SEE HIM GET INTO TROUBLE SOMEDAY
That's hiLarious!
Hibiki's being completely resented

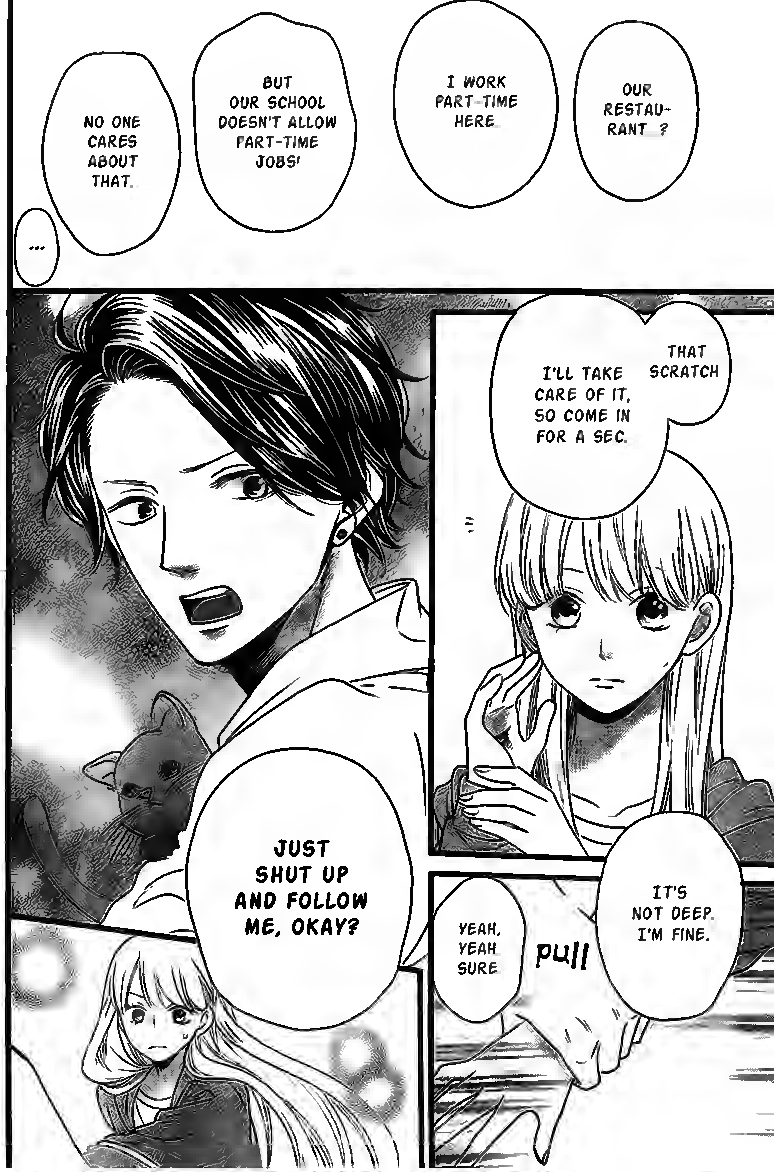
THEY HEARD ME...
Of all people Takumi's clique had to hear me...
DON'T YOU THINK THAT'S A LITTLE UNFAIR?
BUT YOU'RE JUST MAKING ASSUMPTIONS, RIGHT?
Sup?
Torajima-kun! Ruka-kun!
!!
THIS WILL PROBABLY MAKE ME LOOK LIKE I'M BEING PULLED ALONG.
SURE, HE HAS A LOT OF CONFIDENCE IN HIMSELF
...
BUT THAT'S JUST THE KIND OF PERSON HE STRUCK ME AS
YEAH, THEY MIGHT BE ASSUMPTIONS

BUT IT'S NOT LIKE HIBIKI DOESN'T THINK.
EVEN WITH HIM BEING THE WAY HE IS, I'LL HAVE HIS BACK BECAUSE I'M KIND OF HIS FRIEND
HM.
...
Hmm
WHATEVER IT IS HE'S THINKING,
I DON'T WANT TO KNOW.
HOW CAN YOU MAKE UP YOUR MIND ABOUT HIM WHEN YOU DON'T EVEN KNOW HIM?

YOU'VE ALWAYS HAD THAT TENDENCY TO JUMP TO CONCLUSIONS RINA-CHAN.
YOU DON'T KNOW THAT DO YOU?
KNOWING HIM WOULDN'T CHANGE MY OPINION ABOUT HIM
YOU KNOW, YOU'LL NEVER BE ABLE TO FIND LOVE IF YOU KEEP BEING SO PIGHEADED~
...I'M GOING TO TAKE THE KNOWLEDGE OF THAT KISS TO MY GRAVE...
Tell me if something happens okay?!
I'll use it for my story!!
That's like right out of a shoujo manga!!
And anyway what the heck! Mr Popular from your school is living right next to us?!
DON'T JUST START HITTING IT RIGHT AWAY!
MY SCRIPT!
This can't be happening! I wanted to print it today!
SHOULD I DROP BY THE CONVENIENCE STORE REALLY QUICK?
BANG
BANG
WHAT?!
I don't know why, but the printer isn't working...
Hamoko-sensei~

...6, 7, 8.. OKAY, ALL DONE
AH.
A CAT.
Oh.
I'LL GO.
Just keep working, you two
Eh, really?! Thanks!!
SO CUTE
Here, kitty, kitty
'SCUSE ME!
Ugh...
HISS.
SCRATCH
Ouch!

HIM AGAIN...
U
SHE'S A LITTLE SENSITIVE, OUR KITTY.
I THOUGHT PETS AREN'T ALLOWED IN OUR APARTMENT BUILDING THOUGH?
SHE DOESN'T BELONG TO ME.
BUT TO OUR RESTAU-RANT.
OPEN


...
NO ONE CARES ABOUT THAT.
BUT OUR SCHOOL DOESN'T ALLOW PART-TIME JOBS!
I WORK PART-TIME HERE.
OUR RESTAU-RANT ?
THAT SCRATCH
I'LL TAKE CARE OF IT, SO COME IN FOR A SEC.
JUST SHUT UP AND FOLLOW ME, OKAY?
YEAH, YEAH SURE
pull
IT'S NOT DEEP. I'M FINE.

I DON'T WANT TO OWE HIM ANYTHING THOUGH.
SUGIHARA-SAAAN, I NEED THE FIRST-AID KIT.
GIN DID IT AGAIN.
Really?
SEE?
Oh no!
THAT GIN HE REALLY SCRATCHED SOMEONE AGAIN?
HEY, GIMME YOUR HAND ALREADY. COME ON.
Huh? You're gonna do it yourself?
He's actually a stray but sort of settled down here
I'M SORRY. HE'S A LITTLE WILD
BE CAREFUL WHEN YOU TOUCH HIM NEXT TIME
OKAY...

CAN YOU TAKE THAT ORDER?
HIBIKI
SURE.
MESSY
...
TAKE YOUR COMPLAINTS SOMEWHERE ELSE
So sloppy...
Yeuve gottabe kidding me
SLIDE
FOR YOU.
HERE
HMPH
Okaaaay!
MAKE SURE NOT TO OVERDO IT WITH THE DRINKS TODAY AL-RIGHT?
Hey there!
We decided to drop by!
'SUP, HIBIKI-KUN?

Ahaha!
I DON'T HAND OUT ALCOHOLIC DRINKS TO MINORS
YOU'RE STILL IN HIGH SCHOOL, RIGHT?
But.
DOES IT CONTAIN ALCOHOL...?
TO MAKE UP FOR THAT SCRATCH
HUH?
YOU DIDN'T HAVE TO...
PLEASE TAKE IT, I INSIST.
IN THAT CASE... THANKS.
YOU'RE WELCOME.
WHAT'S YOUR NAME?
oh
SUZUKI RINA.
HI
SO, RINA-CHAN IT IS
ARE YOU FRIENDS WITH HIBI-
Absolutely not. We attend the same school, that's all.
Haha
I SEE
OH AND... WE'RE NEIGH-BORS.
Kind of
AH
RIGHT!
At the apartment complex!

I ADMIRE HIM.
HE'S STILL IN HIGH SCHOOL BUT HE'S ALREADY LIVING ALONE.
HUH...? HE'S LIVING ALONE?
YUP.
I ONLY MOVED OUT OF MY PARENTS' HOUSE WHEN I WAS ABOUT 22 OR 23.
I'm 28, by the way
Hey!
AND EVEN THOUGH THIS JOB IS PRETTY TOUGH, HE WORKS HARD WITHOUT EVER SEEMING TIRED.
I REALLY ADMIRE HIM
AS FAR AS I KNOW HE PAYS FOR EVERYTHING, TOO EVEN THE RENT.
!

OH...
Got it!
Hibiki! Bring me one of those too!
HIBIKI, TIME TO CALL IT A DAY
HUH? BUT I'M NOT DONE YET
IT'S ALRIGHT, JUST WALK RINA-CHAN HOME
HM
HUH?!
NO, I'M FINE I CAN WALK HOME BY MYSELF!
NON-SENSE
IT'S DANGEROUS FOR A GIRL TO BE WALKING HOME ALONE THIS LATE

...SURE.
WE OFFER LUNCH ON WEEKENDS TOO, SO PLEASE DROP BY AND TRY IF YOU LIKE.
I MIGHT JUST MAKE YOU RAISE MY SALARY FOR THIS.
I'M COUNTING ON YOU, HIBIKI.
NOT A CHANCE.
BUT I'M NOT FINE WITH IT.
I SAID I'M FINE...
HEY, KEEP UP.

OH, SHUT UP AND LET ME WALK YOU HOME.
WHAT THE HECK, YOU'RE JUST TRYING TO ACT COOL
We live in the same apartment complex anyway
HE'S TRUSTING ME WITH THIS, SO I HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO ACT MY PART PROPERLY
...
I HEARD YOU LIVE BY YOURSELF?
HOW DO YOU KNOW THAT?
THAT GUY BEFORE TOLD ME
AHH SUGIHARA SAN

Must be hard.
I MEAN, YOU HAVE TO PAY FOR ALL YOUR LIVING EXPENSES, RIGHT?
OF COURSE.
MY OWN SELFISHNESS BROUGHT ME HERE AFTER ALL.
WHAT?
IT'S ACTUALLY NOT A BIG DEAL?

YOUR SELFISHNESS?
MY PARENTS WANTED US TO MOVE TO SENDAI DUE TO WORK.
BUT I TOLD THEM I WANT TO STAY HERE EVEN IF I HAVE TO LIVE ON MY OWN.
WHAT? BUT WHY?
I WORKED REALLY HARD TO GET INTO THIS HIGH SCHOOL, YOU KNOW!
Seriously, I studied my ass off!
AND I DIDN'T WANT TO LEAVE MY FRIENDS BEHIND EITHER.
BE-SIDES...
?
...NEVER-MIND.
IN ANY CASE, I GOT THEM TO LET ME STAY HERE EVEN THOUGH THEY WERE AGAINST IT.

DOING THIS WAS MY OWN CHOICE,
SO I DON'T WANT TO BE SEEN AS SOMEONE WHO WAS STRUGGLING IN THE PAST.
I'M NOT BEING WHINY EITHER.
THERE YOU GO AGAIN, PUTTING ON A COOL FRONT...
...

SO WHAT?
I SURE AS HELL DON'T WANT A LIFE OTHERS CONSIDER TO BE UNCOOL.
...WELL,

I DON'T HAVE A BETTER OPINION OF HIM NOW, BUT...
SO HE REALLY DOES THINK A BIT..
SPEAKING OF THAT,
WOULDN'T IT BE BETTER IF YOU MOVED?
980
...

YOU WANT ME GONE, IS THAT IT?
I DO BUT THAT'S NOT MY POINT
THE HOUSES IN THESE PARTS AREN'T EXACTLY CHEAP, RIGHT?
And it's way too spacious for you alone
IT'S OKAY. I'M RENTING IT FOR A LOWER PRICE
THANKS TO MY PARENTS KNOWING THE OWNER
The bigger, the better, obviously. And I can call my friends over.
WHAT THE HECK
SO IN THE END, YOU'RE ACTUALLY ON THE EASY STREET, HUH?
IT'S MY POLICY TO ACCEPT OTHER PEOPLE'S GOODWILL AND BE GRATEFUL FOR IT
HOW CONVENIENT
WELL HERE WE ARE
BYE THEN.
...

HEY!
...THANKS FOR WALKING ME HOME.
SLAM
BYE!
I HAD NO IDEA SHE EVEN KNEW HOW TO SAY THANK YOU...
You've always had that tendency to jump to conclusions, Rina-chan.

You know, you'll never be able to find love if you keep being so pigheaded~
YEAH
MOM MIGHT BE RIGHT ABOUT THAT...
I NEED TO BE MORE FLEXIBLE, I SUPPOSE
ALTHOUGH IT'S SOMETHING EVEN A CHILD UNDERSTANDS,
Mocco's

COME TO THINK OF IT, THE JUICE THERE
WAS DELICIOUS
Drop by if you like
AS LONG AS YOU DON'T KNOW YOURSELF
I FEEL LIKE GOING, SO MAYBE I SHOULD DROP BY
YOU MOST LIKELY WON'T FALL IN LOVE.
OR LEARN TO UNDERSTAND OTHERS,

RAWS
ASKAN
CLEAN
PANDACORN
TYPESET
KEICHAN
PROOFREAD
TOMTOM
TRANSLATION
CHANE
QUALITYCHECK
NONA, SARA
HATTA AYUKO
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